ST Hostel

The Government of Karnataka has been released an amount of Rs. 206 lakhs under the scheme of Hostel for ST Boys and Girls during the year 2005-06. So far, the utilization reported is Rs. 27.67 lakhs.

For the year 2006-07, a new proposal for release of Rs. 170.79 lakhs under the said scheme has been received from Karnataka and is due to be considered on merit.

Reservation on economic basis

2538. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing any legislation for providing reservation to the people on economic basis in addition to the existing policy of reservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the specific reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) The Government has constituted the Commission for Economically Backward Classes comprising of a Chairperson, a Member and a Member-Secretary, with the following terms of reference:-

I. to elicit the views of the State Governments/UTs and other Commission on the subject;

II. to suggest criteria for identification of economically backward classes;

III. to recommend the welfare measures and quantum of reservation in education and Government employment in consultation with the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities;

IV. to suggest the necessary constitutional, legal and administrative modalities as required for the implementation of their recommendations.

The Commission is to submit its report within six months from the date of appointment of the Chairperson. The Chairman, Member and Member-Secretary have been appointed *vide* Notification dated 10.7.2006.